

REMARKS

Claims 2, 17, 18 and 20-31 have been cancelled, and claims 1, 3, 4 and 32, have been amended. Applicants reserve the right to pursue the original claims and other claims in this application and other applications. Claims 1, 3-16, 19, and 32-48 are pending in this application.

The specification has been amended to update the related application information and to correct a typographical error. The Abstract has been amended to correct typographical errors.

Claims 1-10, 13-19, 32, 33 and 37-48 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Yamauchi (U.S. 6,819,917). Claims 11, 12 and 34-36 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Yamauchi in view of McGraw (EP1045574). Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

The present invention is directed to a system and method for providing secure, on-demand delivery and printing of documents that utilizes a portable adaptor that a user can couple between a facsimile machine and a network. The adaptor allows the user to log into a data center utilizing a mobile device, e.g., a PDA, laptop, cell phone, and the like, to select a document for printing. The selected document is sent from the data center to the facsimile machine via the adaptor, and can then be printed by the facsimile machine.

Claim 1 as amended is directed to a system that comprises "a data center to store said document, said data center being coupled to a telephone network; a facsimile machine coupled to said telephone network; and a portable adaptor coupled between said telephone network and said facsimile machine, said portable adaptor including a communication device to communicate with a mobile device, wherein said mobile device communicates with said adaptor and causes said adaptor to retrieve said document from said data center via said telephone network, and said adaptor provides said document to said facsimile machine for printing."

Yamauchi is directed to a remote output system in which a mobile telephone 10 communicates with a computer 20 and output device 50. The mobile telephone 10 requests desired information from the computer 20 and designates a target output. The computer 20 adds an authentication number to the information requested, and transmits the information and authentication number to the output device 50. The computer 20 also transmits the authentication number to the mobile telephone 10. The user of the mobile telephone 10 then transmits the authentication number notified from the computer 20 to the output device 50 through the mobile telephone 10. (Col. 5, lines 13-35). Alternatively, the user inputs the authentication number from the side of the output device 50 using an input device such as a keyboard, a key panel or a liquid crystal touch panel. (Col. 6, lines 23-40).

The Office Action contends that the computer 20 in Yamauchi corresponds to the adaptor as recited in claim 1, and the buffer storage unit 30 corresponds to the data center as recited in claim 1. This is simply not correct. The computer 20 in Yamauchi corresponds to the data center as is recited in claim 1, which stores the documents for retrieval. Note that the computer 20 in Yamauchi is not coupled between the network and the output device (facsimile machine) as is recited in claim 1. Instead, in Yamauchi, the computer 20 is coupled to the output device by the network 40. The computer 20 does not correspond to the adaptor of the present invention. The buffer storage unit 30 in Yamauchi is simply a local memory device coupled to or integral to the output device that stores information and authentication numbers sent from the computer 20 (See Col. 4, lines 3-5, Col. 5, lines 26-29). The buffer storage unit 30 in Yamauchi is not coupled to any network, but instead coupled directly to or integral to the output device 50. There would be no need for any network to retrieve a document from the buffer storage device 30 in Yamauchi, as the output device 50 can retrieve the document directly from the buffer storage device 30.

There is simply no disclosure, teaching or suggestion anywhere in Yamauchi of any type of adaptor as in the present invention. In Yamauchi, there are only two options for a user if they wish to use the system in Yamauchi. The first is to find an

Abstract of the Invention

A system and method for providing secure, on-demand delivery and retrieval of documents, messages and the like utilizing ana adaptor coupled to a facsimile machine. AnA adaptor is coupled between a facsimile machine and a telephone line. A mobile device communicates with the adaptor to allow a user to log onto a document delivery system, via the telephone line, and select a document, message or the like to be printed. The telephone number of the facsimile machine is provided to the data center by the adaptor or mobile device, and the data center then sends the selected documents to the facsimile machine through the adaptor. Alternatively, the data center can encrypt the documents before sending, and a key is used by the adaptor to decrypt the documents prior to sending to the facsimile machine.

output device that is capable of communicating with the mobile telephone 10 such that the mobile telephone 10 can transmit the authentication number to the output device 50. If an output device in Yamauchi does not have this communication capability, that output device cannot be used. Due to cost constraints, most facsimile machines do not have this type of communication capability and therefore cannot be used with the system in Yamauchi.

The second option is to find an output device 50 that has an integral input device (keyboard, key panel, etc.) to allow the user to manually type in the authentication number. This requires, however, that the user have a mobile telephone to communicate with the computer 20 to receive the authorization number. If the user does not have a mobile telephone, the user can not use the system of Yamauchi.

The deficiencies described above with Yamauchi are solved by the present invention in which a portable adaptor that a user can carry is coupled between the facsimile machine and network that allows the user to communicate with the data center using any type of mobile device, such as a PDA or pager. Thus, with the adaptor of the present invention, any type of facsimile machine and mobile device can be used to retrieve and print a document, as the communication is performed between the mobile device and the adaptor. There is no disclosure, teaching or suggestion anywhere in Yamauchi of any type of adaptor as in the present invention. The reference to McGraw does not cure any of the above deficiencies, as it was relied upon for other features.

For at least the above reasons, Applicant respectfully submits that claim 1 is allowable over the prior art of record. Claims 3-16 and 19, dependent upon claim 1, are allowable along with claim 1 and on their own merits.

Claim 32 is directed to a method for remotely retrieving and printing a selected document stored in a data center and includes limitations similar to those of claim 1. For the same reasons give above with respect to claim 1, Applicant respectfully

submits that claim 32 is allowable over the prior art of record. Claims 33-48, dependent upon claim 32, are allowable along with claim 32 and on their own merits.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the claims of this case are in a condition for allowance and favorable action thereon is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'B A L', is written over a horizontal line.

Brian A. Lemm
Reg. No. 43,748
Attorney for Applicant
Telephone (203) 924-3836

PITNEY BOWES INC.
Intellectual Property and
Technology Law Department
35 Waterview Drive
P.O. Box 3000
Shelton, CT 06484-8000

Enclosure